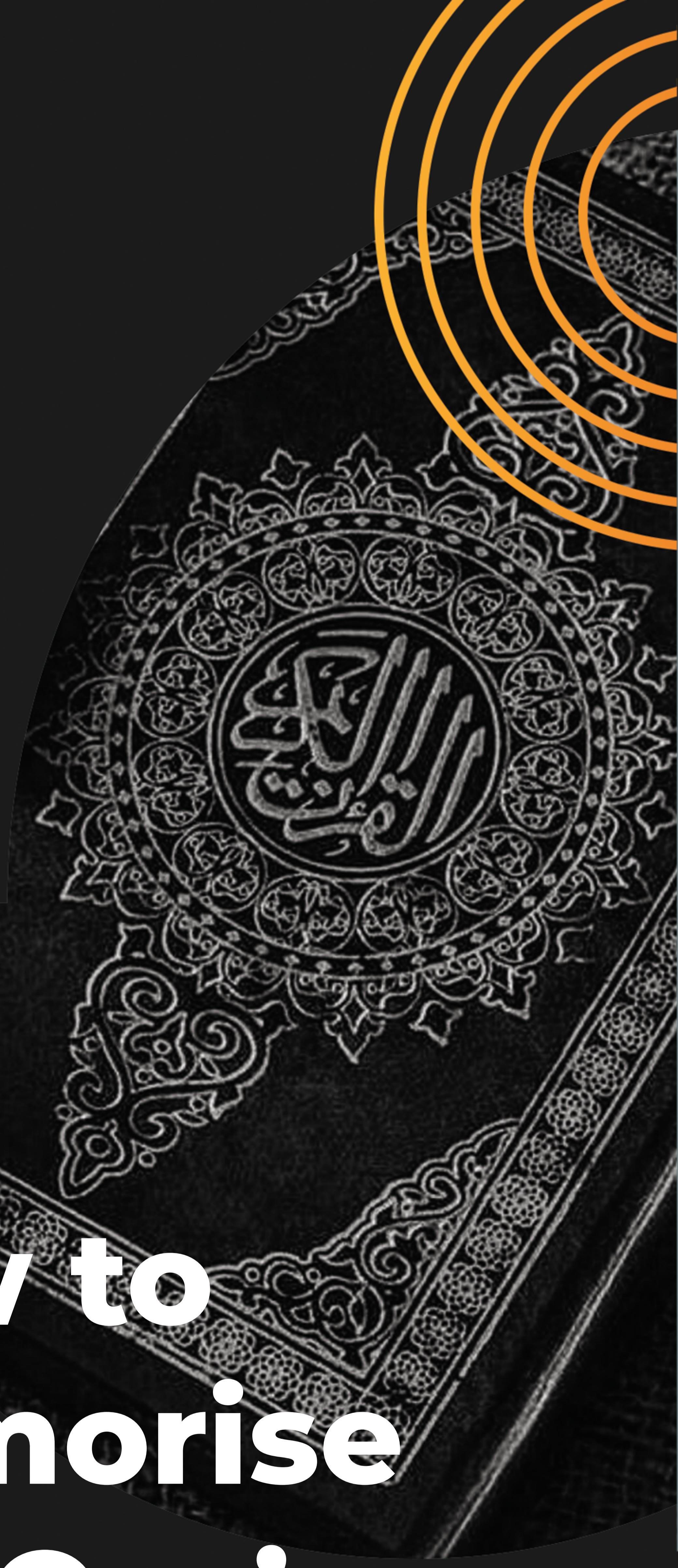




# How to Memorise the Qur'an

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بِسْمِ اللّٰهِ الرَّحْمٰنِ الرَّحِيْمِ

In the name of Allah, The Most Gracious, The Most Merciful

---



Assalamu'alaikum wa rahmatullahi wa barakatuhu,

We pray that this message reaches you  
in good health and imaan.

On behalf of our AMAU Academy team, we would like  
to present to you these compiled notes that we have  
prepared to make your journey with us a lot easier.

Our notes are compiled by the AMAU Admin team  
and have not been comprehensively checked  
by a teacher.

If you find any errors or corrections that need  
to be made, kindly inform us via our email  
**helpdesk@amauacademy.com**

May Allah make our paths toward seeking  
beneficial knowledge easy and kindle our hearts  
with sincerity and gratefulness  
towards Him.

Jazakumullahu Khayran



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جَلَّ لَهُ جَلَالٌ

| جل جلاله | Jalla Jalāluhu

**Allah the Most Exalted**

وَاللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ سَلَامٌ  
صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ

| صلى الله عليه وسلم | Sallāllāhu Alayhi Wa Sallam

**Peace and blessings of Allah be upon him**

رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ

| رضي الله عنه | RadiAllahu `anhu

**May Allah be pleased with him**

رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ

| رحمة الله | Rahimahullah

**May Allah have mercy upon him**

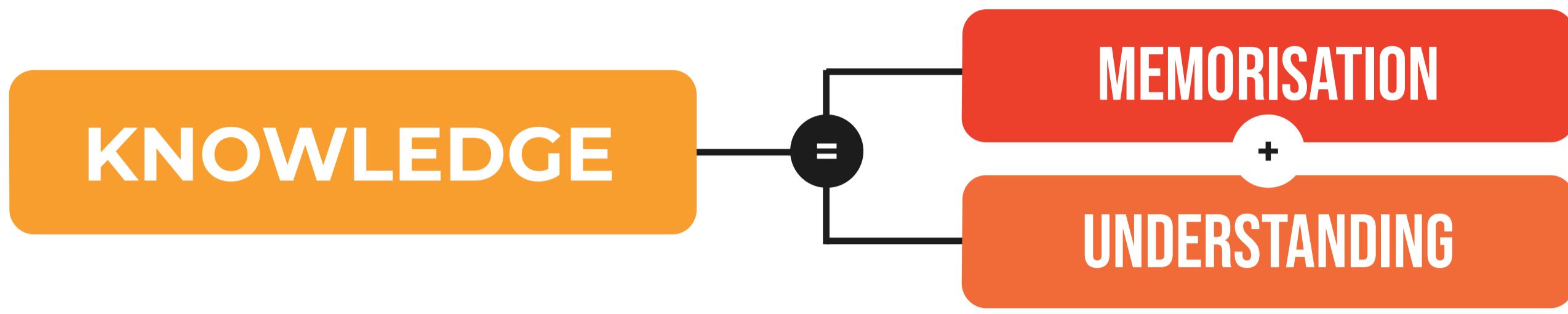


# The Significance of Memorisation

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*Chapter One*

## MEMORISATION IS A KEY COMPONENT WITHOUT WHICH A MUSLIM CANNOT TRAVERSE THE PATH OF KNOWLEDGE.



**Islamic knowledge consists of two intertwined components: memorisation and understanding.**

Both are indispensable for a comprehensive grasp of the Knowledge of our religion. Some individuals may possess profound understanding but struggle to convey knowledge without their books and notes. On the other hand, those adept at memorisation may lack the depth of understanding. Striking a balance between these two facets is crucial for a holistic understanding of Islam.

Scholars say that IF someone had to choose between Hifdh and Fahm (although having both is crucial), Fahm (understanding) would have the upper hand.

### 1 What History Says...

There is no scholar in the history of Islam except that he engaged in Hifdh.

- 1 Imam ash-Shafi'i memorised the Muwatta of Imam Maalik - a collection of 1,947 hadiths - at the age of ten. He did so along with the chains of narrations. Moreover, in those days, books did not have dots and Tashkeel on the letters.
- 2 Imam an-Nawawi memorised Kitab at-Tanbeeh by Ash-Shirazi in four and a half months. In the remaining months, he memorised Rub' al-'Ibaadaat by the same author.
- 3 'Ali ibn Mahmood ibn 'Attaar memorised Alfiyyah al-I'raaqi - a 1,000-line poem - in one day.
- 4 At-Tujeebi said about Sheikh al-Islam Ibn Taymiyyah, "I wonder at the Hifdh of Ibn Taymiyyah." The first book he memorised as a kid was Al-Jam' Bayna As-Sahihayn by Al-Humaydi - a 5-6 volume book of hadith.

## WITH THAT SAID, THE FIRST THING A MUSLIM SHOULD MEMORISE IS THE BOOK OF ALLAH ﷺ - THE QUR'AN. THERE IS NOTHING LIKE IT.

### 2 The Qur'an is a Favour From Allah ﷺ

The Qur'an is described as an honour for the believers, and Allah's favour upon them.

Allāh ﷺ says:

وَإِنَّهُ لَذِكْرٌ لَكَ وَلِقَوْمِكَ وَسُوفَ تُسْأَلُونَ

**1** And indeed, it is a Dhikr for you and your people, and you [all] are going to be questioned.

Az-Zukhruf 44

The word “Dhikr” here means “Sharaf” or honour.

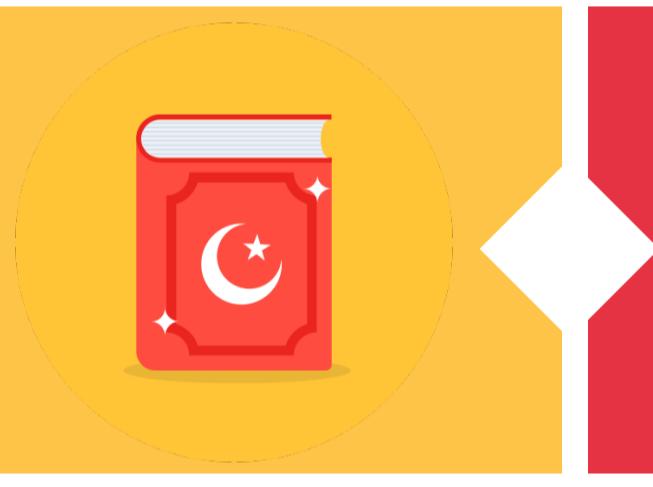
Allah's mercy is evident in granting Prophet Muhammad ﷺ this revelation, as expressed in the following Ayah that recognises the immense virtue of having the Qur'an.

Allāh ﷺ says:

وَكَذَلِكَ أَوْحَيْنَا إِلَيْكَ رُوْجًا مِنْ أَمْرِنَا مَا كُنْتَ تَدْرِي مَا الْكِتَابُ وَلَا أَلِيمَنْ وَلَكِنْ جَعَلْنَا نُورًا تَهْدِي بِهِ مَنْ نَشَاءُ مِنْ عِبَادِنَا وَإِنَّكَ لَتَهْدِي إِلَى صِرَاطٍ مُسْتَقِيمٍ

**2** And thus We have revealed to you an inspiration of Our command [i.e., the Qur'an]. You did not know what is the Book or [what is] faith, but We have made it a light by which We guide whom We will of Our servants. And indeed, [O Muhammad], you guide to a straight path.

Ash-Shuraa 52



**THE QUR'AN AWAKENS A SOUL.  
IT BRINGS IT TO LIFE.**

**3** Allah's Warning

Allāh ﷺ warns the Prophet ﷺ about the possibility of the Qur'an being taken away, underscoring His mercy in preserving this divine revelation.

He says in the Qur'an:

وَلَئِنْ شِئْنَا لَنَذْهَبَنَّ بِالَّذِي أَوْحَيْنَا إِلَيْكَ ثُمَّ لَا تَجِدُ لَكَ بِهِ عَلَيْنَا وَكِيلًا

**3** And if We willed, We could surely take away that which We have revealed to you (i.e. this Qur'an). Then you would find no protector for you against Us in that respect.

Al-Isra 86

Allāh ﷺ says that if He were to take away the Qur'an, we would never be able to find anything good enough to replace it. But He did not do so out of His mercy towards us.

In conclusion, this chapter establishes the integral role of memorisation in acquiring Islamic knowledge.

It advocates for a balanced approach, combining both memorisation and understanding while placing the Qur'an at the forefront as the primary focus of memorisation.

# The Reverence of the Qur'an

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*Chapter Two*

1 Allah ﷺ said about His Book:

قُل لَّئِنْ أَجْتَمَعَتِ الْإِنْسُونَ وَالْجِنُّ عَلَىٰ أَنْ يَأْتُوْا بِمِثْلِ هَذَا الْقُرْءَانِ لَا يَأْتُوْنَ بِمِثْلِهِ  
وَلَوْ كَانَ بَعْضُهُمْ لِيَغْصِبُ ظَهِيرًا

**Say, "If mankind and the jinn gathered in order to produce the like of this Qur'an, they could not produce the like of it, even if they were to each other assistants."**

Al-Isra 88

## 1 | Recognising the Divine Gift

2 We find in another Aayah:

وَلَقَدْ أَتَيْنَاكَ سَبْعًا مِّنَ الْمَتَانِي وَالْقُرْءَانَ الْعَظِيمَ

**And We have certainly given you, [O Muhammad], seven of the often repeated [verses] and the great Qur'an.**

Al-Hijr 87

Here, Allah ﷺ addresses the Prophet ﷺ and reminds him of the bestowal of seven verses that repeat themselves. These seven verses refer to Surah al-Fatihah.

Some scholars suggest that "Al-Qur'an al-Adheem" also refers to Surah al-Fatihah, while others say it refers to the rest of the Qur'an (apart from Surah al-Fatihah).

## 2 | What Could Be More Precious Than the Qur'an?

3 Allah ﷺ then says:

لَا تَمْدَنْ عَيْنِيْكَ إِلَىٰ مَا مَتَّعْنَا بِهِ أَرْوَاحًا مِّنْهُمْ [...]

**Do not extend your eyes toward that by which We have given enjoyment to [certain] categories of them [i.e., the disbelievers] [...]**

Al-Hijr 88

Allah ﷺ tells us to stop craving for the wealth and luxury given to others when we have been given something much greater - the Qur'an.

## 3 | A Miracle That Exists Even Today

Every prophet was given a miracle so that the people could see it and believe in his message.

When those prophets died, their miracles went with them - except for our Prophet Muhammad ﷺ. The miracle given to him - the Qur'an - is still with us.

The Arabs tried to meet Allah's challenge - to produce verses like those of the Qur'an. Despite their mastery of the Arabic language and poetic prowess, they were unable to match the eloquence of the Qur'an.

**YOU ARE LOSING OUT BY NOT MEMORISING THE QUR'AN.**

## 4 A Heart Deprived of Hifdh

4 The Prophet ﷺ said in a hadith:

إِنَّ الَّذِي لَيْسَ فِي جَوْفِهِ شَيْءٌ مِّنَ الْقُرْآنِ كَالْبَيْتِ الْخَرِبِ

"Indeed, the one who does not have the Qur'an inside him (his heart), is like the ruined house."

Jami` at-Tirmidhi 2913

Something to think about - Do we want our hearts to become like empty, ruined houses?

## 5 Background Story of the Hadith - “The Best of You are Those Who Learn the Qur'an...”

5 Most of us have heard this hadith where the Prophet ﷺ said:

خَيْرُكُمْ مَنْ تَعَلَّمَ الْقُرْآنَ وَعَلَّمَهُ

"The best among you (Muslims) are those who learn the Qur'an and teach it."

Sahih al-Bukhari 5027

This hadith was narrated by 'Uthman ibn 'Affaan رضي الله عنه. The man who transmitted it from him was a Tabi'ee called Abdulrahman as-Sulami, a renowned Qaari.

He took knowledge from five noble companions:

- 1 'ABDULLAH IBN MAS'OOD رضي الله عنه
- 2 'UTHMAN IBN 'AFFAAN رضي الله عنه
- 3 'ALI IBN ABI TAALIB رضي الله عنه
- 4 ZAYD IBN THAABIT رضي الله عنه
- 5 UBAYY IBN KA'B رضي الله عنه

In Kufah, he taught the Quran for 65 years. Among his students were al-Hasan and al-Husayn.

He used to say to his students, "Do you know what made me sit in this seat and teach the Qur'an for all these years?"

When they enquired, he said, "I heard 'Uthman ibn 'Affaan رضي الله عنه say that the Prophet ﷺ said, 'The best among you are those who learn the Qur'an and teach it.'"

# Listening to a Reciter

---

*Chapter Three*

“  
**THE QUR’AN**  
 IS A BOOK WE ALL  
**MUST STRIVE TO MEMORISE**  
 ””

Some people hear reminders and virtues regarding memorising the Book of Allah ﷺ and think they cannot do it because they have grown old.

01

### Can I Memorise the Qur'an in Old Age?

1

Imam an-Nawawi mentioned that Abu Bakr as-Siddeeq رضي الله عنه عن عَنْ finished his memorisation of the Qur'an at the age of 61 years.

2

Abu 'Abdullah ibn 'Umar al-Hammuyah is said to have memorised the Qur'an at the age of 80 years.

Allāh This proves that Hifdh is possible for everyone.

Remember this line of poetry:

وَمَنْ تَكَنْتُمُ الْعَلَيَاءِ هِمَّةً نَفْسَهُ ... فَكُلُّ الَّذِي يَلْقَاهُ فِيهَا مُحِبٌّ

Translation: Whoever sets a lofty goal for himself, finds joy in every hardship he faces (on the way)

In a hadith much more profound, the Prophet ﷺ said:

1

فَإِذَا سَأَلْتُمُ اللَّهَ فَسَلُوْهُ الْفِرْدَوْسَ [...]

[...] so if you ask Allah for anything, ask Him for the Firdaus.

Sahih al-Bukhari 7423

## AS MUSLIMS, WE MUST HAVE HIGH ASPIRATIONS.

02

### Your Journey Starts Here and Now

We must set the goal of memorising the Speech of our Lord and begin working towards it from this very moment.

**REMEMBER: HIFDH IS NOT A RACE.**

YOU ARE NOT REQUIRED TO FINISH IT IN ONE YEAR OR TWO.

**YOU ARE REQUIRED TO BE CONSISTENT.**

KEEP SEEKING KNOWLEDGE AND DO NOT GIVE UP.

**THE BIGGEST PROBLEM FACED BY A STUDENT OF KNOWLEDGE  
 IS WHEN HE SAYS, “I CAN’T DO IT.”**

Every scholar or Imam whose biography you read stayed in his mother's womb for 9 months. Just like you.

Above all, Allah ﷺ told us that He has made His Book easy to remember:

2

وَلَقَدْ يَسَّرْنَا الْقُرْءَانَ لِلذِّكْرِ فَهُلْ مِنْ مُّذَكَّرٍ

**And We have certainly made the Qur'an easy for remembrance, so is there any who will remember?**

Al-Qamar 40

03

## Practical Strategies for Hifdh

A

### The Early Morning Routine

Let us describe the Hifdh plan in a practical way by taking insights from the example of Ibrahim.

One should begin his memorisation early in the morning about 2 hours before Fajr.

B

### Listening to the Qur'an

One should engage all his senses when memorising the Book of Allah ﷺ. To begin, one should listen to the recitation of Sheikh Mahmoud Khalil Al-Hussary.

**Page:** Listen to a page/portion 50 times

**Ayah:** Listen to each Aayah 10 times

C

### Writing the Portion

Another effective method one should never neglect is writing down the portion one aims to memorise. This portion - be it one page, a half, a quarter, etc. - should be written in its entirety 3 times.

Its benefits include knowing how to write the Mushaf and improvement in writing speed.

# Reciting and Repeating

---

*Chapter Four*

Let us continue to chart our Qur'an memorisation plan.

**D** An Early Start

Wake up 1-2 hours before Fajr.

Make a habit of sleeping right after 'Ishaa. Quit talking to friends on the phone, scrolling through the net, social media. You are on a mission to memorise the book of Allah ﷺ.

**E** Reading to a Teacher

After having listened to your portion in the manner described in chapter 3, you need to recite it to your teacher by looking from the Mushaf to ensure that you are reciting correctly.

Once done, go to your corner and begin the process of repeating.

**F** Memorising by Repeating

Although everyone has his/her own method of memorising, here is a simple method recommended for those just starting out.

• **Step 1.**

Suppose you have to memorise the Ayah:

عَسَى رَبُّكُمْ أَنْ يَرَحَمَكُمْ ۝ وَإِنْ عُذْتُمْ عُذْنَا ۝ وَجَعَلْنَا جَهَنَّمَ لِلْكَافِرِينَ حَصِيرًا ۝

You read the Ayah thrice while looking at the Mushaf.

• **Step 2.**

Then you read it thrice from memory. If you make even a single mistake or stutter while reciting, restart from step 1 (i.e. read the Ayah thrice from the Mushaf again).

Continue repeating these steps until you can read the entire Ayah thrice from memory without making a mistake.

• **Step 3.**

Then you move on to the next Ayah. Memorise it by following steps 1 and 2.

• **Step 4.**

After having read the 2nd second Ayah thrice from memory, you need to connect it with the previous Ayah. So you go back to it and recite Aayaat 1 and 2 three times.

You keep repeating this set of steps until you finish your daily portion.

Whenever you memorise a new Ayah from the portion, you connect it with the preceding Aayaat by reading from the first Ayah of the portion/page.

**G** → **A Key Factor**

One factor without which you cannot progress in your Hifdh journey is discipline. The idea of sitting cross-legged for hours and focusing on memorisation and repetition causes a lot of people to leave this path.

**H** → **Finishing a Surah**

When you make it through the pages and complete your memorisation of a Surah, you do something known as Jam'. It simply means reading the entire Surah from beginning to end.

**I** → **The Tradition of Sub'ah**

Once you finish a Juz' of the Qur'an, you do something known as Sub'ah. Let us know more about it in the next chapter.



# **Sub'ah and Finishing the Qur'an**

---

*Chapter Five*

- - - - WHAT IS SUB'AH? - - - -

It is a method of reciting and revising with a companion. It involves a verse-by-verse exchange, where each participant recites a verse alternately.

You begin by reciting the first Aayah of a Juz'. Then, your companion recites the second Aayah. This is followed by you reciting the third Aayah until you both reach the end of the Juz'.

**Pro Tip: Consider joint recitation of the last part of every Aayah. This keeps the focus intact and aids in seamless continuation.**

1

**Practise Like the Sahaabah**

Your aim should be to finish the Qur'an every 7 days. This was the practice of the Sahaabah رضي الله عنهم. To do this, here is the schedule you need to follow:

**فمی بسوق**

DAY	LETTER	BEGIN FROM	STOP AT
1	ف	SURAH AL FATIHAH	SURAH AL MA'IDAH
2	م	SURAH AL MA'IDAH	SURAH YUNUS
3	ي	SURAH YUNUS	SURAH BANI ISRAIL
4	ب	SURAH BANI ISRAIL	SURAH ASH-SHU'ARA
5	ش	SURAH ASH-SHU'ARA	SURAH AS-SAFFAAT
6	و	SURAH AS-SAFFAAT	SURAH QAF
7	ق	SURAH QAF	SURAH AN NAAS

**CONSISTENCY WITHIN THIS TIMEFRAME  
IS A MINIMUM REQUIREMENT FOR EVERY HAFIDH.**

2

**The 30-Day Obligation**

Completing the Quran at least once within 30 days is a must. Anyone failing to do so has abandoned it.

It has come in the Aayah:

وَقَالَ الرَّسُولُ يَرَبِّ إِنَّ قَوْمِي أَتَخَذُوا هَذَا الْقُرْءَانَ مَهْجُورًا

1

And the Messenger (Muhammad ﷺ) will say: "O my Lord! Verily, my people deserted this Qur'an (neither listened to it, nor acted on its laws and teachings)."

Al Furqan 30

3

### Graduating to the Three-Day Program

As an aspirational goal, the Hafidh should strive to finish the Qur'an every three days. This journey from Surah Al-Fatiha to Surah An-Nas within three days is a significant milestone.

Here is a brief plan for this method:

DAY	BEGIN FROM	READ UNTIL
1	SURAH AL FATIHAH	SURAH AN ANFAL - AYAH 41 وَأَعْلَمُوا أَنَّمَا غَنِمْتُمْ [...]
2	SURAH AN ANFAL - AYAH 41 وَأَعْلَمُوا أَنَّمَا غَنِمْتُمْ [...]	SURAH AN NAML - AYAH 56 فَمَا كَانَ جَوَابَ قَوْمِهِ [...]
3	SURAH AN NAML - AYAH 56 فَمَا كَانَ جَوَابَ قَوْمِهِ [...]	SURAH AN-NAAS

# Revision

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*Chapter Six*

In the final chapter, we will learn about revising the Qur'an and going over the portions one has memorised.

## 1 Muraaja'ah

Muraaja'ah refers to the process of reviewing and perfecting what one has memorised. A unique way of doing Muraaja'ah suggested by Ustadh includes the following:

- 1 **Keep oneself consistent in doing Sub'ah.**
- 2 **Once you finish memorising the Qur'an, start listening to Sheikh Mahmoud Khalil Al-Hussary. It has the following benefits:**
  - His recitation is flawless in terms of Tajweed
  - His recitation teaches you where to stop and where to avoid stopping in the Qur'an
- 3 **Incorporate listening to Sheikh Hussary into your 7-day program (فمي بشوق).**

For example, on day 1 you listen to Sheikh Hussary's recitation of the Qur'an from Surah al-Fatiha to al-Ma'idah THREE. As you are listening, your eyes should be on the Mushaf, following his recitation.

Then, in the evening, you do the Sub'ah of this portion.

## 2 Stick to ONE Mushaf

Buy a Mushaf and stick to it. Never change it. By constantly looking at the same Mushaf, memorising from it and revising, doing Muraaja'ah with it builds your visual memory which makes your Hifdh precise.

## 3 Support From Family

Your parents, spouse, siblings or friends can aid your Hifdh journey to a great extent.

You can recite the portions you have memorised to them and have them mark the lines or words where you get stuck, miss, skip or forget.

This will make you mindful of your mistakes and pay special attention to them.

Not only this, you will also realise that you make new mistakes in places that you were reciting correctly before.

## 4 A Word of Advice

**THE ONLY THING THAT GUARANTEES STRONG  
MEMORISATION IS REPETITION.**

Be it travel, work or any form of urgency, you must stick to your memorisation and revision plan no matter what.

Do not look at others who have memorised the Qur'an before you and become disheartened thinking he or she is gifted while you are deprived.

Some people are quite slow in memorisation yet their Hifdh is strong. Thus, the only thing that matters is that you reach the end of this journey, not how fast you go - be it five years or ten.



To ensure your progress, we recommend that you take this self evaluation quiz based on the notes and video series that you have just completed.

**Attempt Quiz**

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